



American Medical Women's Association

July 27, 2001

The Honorable John Dingell
2328 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Dingell:

The American Medical Women's Association proudly supports the FamilyCare Act of 2001. This timely legislation will go far to improve the health of women and their families nationally. As an organization of 10,000 women physicians and physicians-in-training dedicated to promoting women's health and advancing women in medicine, we believe that the FamilyCare Act of 2001 is the key to ensuring that uninsured women and their families receive critical health care services.

An astounding 14% of women are uninsured nationally. The FamilyCare Act provides an affordable new health insurance option to these women while guaranteeing coverage to their families as well. Approximately 95% of uninsured, low-income children are eligible for Medicaid or CHIP, but many eligible children are not currently enrolled. Studies show that parents are more likely to enroll their children in Medicaid and CHIP programs if the whole family is eligible. Therefore, covering parents will increase enrollment of uninsured children.

As an endorsing organization of the FamilyCare Act of 2001, AMWA supports the goals articulated in this legislation and we look forward to working with you on its passage. The women's health implications of this legislation are far-reaching and will clearly be beneficial to women's health, children, and families. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Melisa Lindamood, Director of Government Affairs at 703-838-0500. Thank you for your support of families.

Sincerely,

Omega Logan Silva, MD, FACP
President, American Medical Women's Association